IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. Canceled.

2. Canceled.

3. Canceled.

4. Canceled.

5. Canceled.

6. Canceled.

7. (Currently Amended) An asymmetric annuloplasty device for supporting a [[heart]] mitral valve of a heart in a patient, the [[heart]] mitral valve having an annulus and a plurality of leaflets, and the device comprising:

a ring-shaped member configured for fixation to the annulus entirely inside the heart and extending around a central axis along which blood is adapted to flow in a downward direction when said ring-shaped member is fixed to the annulus, wherein said ring-shaped member is elongated along a first, major axis relative to a second, minor axis perpendicular to said first, major axis, said second, minor axis bisecting said ring shaped member along said first, major axis, and said ring-shaped member being asymmetrically shaped about said second, minor axis, and wherein a [[first]] posterior segment of said ring-shaped member is adapted to be attached to a posterior section of the annulus and is preformed to extend [[extends]] downward in the direction of blood

flow through said ring-shaped member relative to an anterior [[a second]] segment of said ring-shaped member ~~in the direction of blood flow through said ring-shaped member~~ so as to be retained in the preformed position when the ring-shaped member is fixed to the annulus to promote coaptation between the plurality of leaflets.

8. (Currently Amended) An asymmetric annuloplasty device for supporting a [[heart]] mitral valve of a heart in a patient, the [[heart]] mitral valve having an annulus and a plurality of leaflets, and the device comprising:

a ring-shaped member configured for fixation to the annulus entirely inside the heart and extending around a central axis along which blood is adapted to flow in a downward direction when said ring-shaped member is fixed to the annulus, wherein said ring-shaped member is elongated along a first, major axis relative to a second, minor axis perpendicular to said first, major axis, said second, minor axis bisecting said ring shaped member along said first, major axis, wherein a [[first]] posterior segment of said ring-shaped member is adapted to be attached to a posterior section of the annulus and is preformed to extend [[extends]] downward in the direction of blood flow through said ring-shaped member relative to [[a second]] an anterior segment of said ring-shaped member ~~in the direction of blood flow through said ring-shaped member~~ so as to be retained in the preformed position when the ring-shaped member is fixed to the annulus and said ring-shaped member further defining a smaller area on one side of said second, minor axis than on an opposite side of said second, minor axis to promote coaptation between the plurality of leaflets.

9. Canceled.

10. Canceled.